

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig.1 and replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1.

In Fig. 1, the perspective views of male threads and nuts have been separately labeled as Fig. 1b and Fig. 1c, respectively. The main portion of Fig. 1 has been relabeled as Fig. 1a.

Attachments following last page of this Amendment:

Replacement Sheet (1 page)
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes (1 page)

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks and the foregoing amendments, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 and 6-10 are pending in the application, with claim 1 being independent. Claim 5 has been cancelled. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended to correct for informalities, and claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 5.. No new matter is introduced.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 5 has been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants acknowledge the allowance of claim 5 with appreciation.

Dependent claim 5 has been canceled, and the subject matter of claim 5 has been incorporated into independent claim 1 to make claim 1 allowable.

Drawing Objections

The drawings have been objected to because Fig. 1 has perspective views of male threads and nuts that should be labeled separately and should each have their own description in the specification. Fig. 1 has been corrected to separately label Figs. 1b and 1c as the two perspective views of the male threads and nuts, and the specification has been amended to provide a description of these views. It is submitted that these amendments overcome the objection to the drawings, and the objection should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-4 and 6-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended to correct for informalities. It is

submitted that these amendments overcome the rejection of the claims, and the rejection of claims 1-4 and 6-10 should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Sheu (U.S. Patent 6,240,700). This rejection should be withdrawn in view of the amendment of claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 5.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

Claim 3 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Sheu in view of Pidgeon (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0226236).

Claim 4 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Sheu in view of Butler (U.S. Patent No. 5,564,235).

Claims 6 and 9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Sheu in view of Fey (U.S. Patent No. 6,050,038).

Claim 10 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Sheu in view of Bravinski (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0035073).

These rejections should be withdrawn in view of the amendment of claim 1.

All claims are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

It is believed that all of the pending issues have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this reply should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this reply, and the

Applicant : Kwang-Man KIM et al.
Serial No. : 10/597,731
Filed : June 1, 2007
Page : 12 of 12

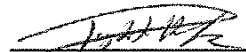
Attorney's Docket No.: 21492-0002US1 / POA00238US

amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

The fee in the amount of \$65 for a one-month extension of time is being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization. No other fees are believed due. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Oct. 26, 2009


Dwight U. Thompson
Reg. No. 53,688

Customer No. 26171
Fish & Richardson P.C.
1425 K Street, N.W., 11th Floor
Washington, DC 20005-3500
Telephone: (202) 783-5070
Facsimile: (877) 769-7945

ATTACHMENT